

~~INFORMATION REPORT~~

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COUNTRY Argentina/Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 28 Mar 1949

SUBJECT Rumored Meetings of Ex-Serb and Croat Leaders
in Argentina

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1. Dr. Ante Pavelich, former head of the Independent State of Croatia and pro-Nazi war criminal, and Dr. Milan Stojadinovich, pro-Nazi ex-Prime Minister of Yugoslavia, are rumored to have had two or three meetings recently in Argentina through the intermediation of the Croat Ustasha Dr. Branko Benzon.*
2. The purpose of the meetings is reportedly to assert the impossibility of the Croats and Serbs living together in one state, and to find a reasonable solution of the problem of separating the Serbs and Croats without further struggle and bloodshed.
3. Although any collaboration between the former Serb and Croat leaders is considered strange, such individuals as Miodrag Djordjevic, an agent of Stojadinovich, and (fnu) de Franceschi, a Croat by origin and an opponent of Stojadinovich, are circulating the information as true.
4. Stojadinovich still regards himself as a Serbian leader of great political skill. Pavelich continues to maintain a certain amount of influence over his Croat Ustashi elements at home and abroad. However, even though Pavelich's activities might conceivably be of some interest to the Croats, Stojadinovich definitely does not have any influence over the Serbian masses either at home or abroad.
5. As a result, according to source, any solution which might be reached eventually by the improbable combination of Stojadinovich and Pavelich would not be of value to the majority of the Croats and would not even be considered by the Serbs.
6. Both Stojadinovich and Pavelich, either personally or through intermediaries, are reported to enjoy a certain prestige with the Argentine authorities. The idea of arranging their meeting might therefore have originated with certain of these Argentines. If their collaboration cannot be viewed sympathetically among the Croat and Serbian immigrants in Argentina, this is believed by source to be even more true abroad where the Serbs and Croats experienced Stojadinovich's methods before the war and Pavelich's government during the war.

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* [REDACTED] Comment. Ante Pavelich was reported in [REDACTED] to be living in the home of a friend in La Cumbre, province of Cordoba. Information has now been [REDACTED] that Pavelich had entered the Hospital Aleman in Buenos Aires about two weeks before for treatment of a skin disease. He is reported to be isolated from other patients in the hospital and is not permitted visitors for fear of contagion.

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